

TESCO NO GO

Supermarket pulls plans for food store, hotel and 269 homes on Toby Jug site



Tesco has withdrawn its application to build a supermarket, hotel and flats on the old Toby Jug site in Tolworth.

The supermarket giant announced on Tuesday it had scrapped its plans as they stand, and will now consider its options regarding the land, which it bought in 2002.

Roberto Munoz, Tesco's head of corporate affairs for London, said: "We have reluctantly decided to withdraw the application for our Spenhill site in Tolworth."

"We know how important this site is to Kingston's future and we wanted to thank our many supporters and everyone who has worked hard on this application."

"We were encouraged the officers supported the principle of all the uses of the site, including a new supermarket, a hotel and 269 much-needed new homes, but we were disappointed the application was recommended for refusal."

"Our commitment is to delivering something that works for the community and we will continue to consult and review what's best for Tolworth."

"We will keep everyone informed during this process."

by JON SHARMAN

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Tesco's application was due to be decided by Kingston Council at a now-cancelled development control committee meeting tomorrow evening.

A report by planning officers recommended refusal. It said: "The applicant has been given every opportunity to submit an application which is likely to be considered favourably."

"However, the amendments required to make the application acceptable are substantial and would materially change the development proposal."

"They would require further consultation to be undertaken."

The development would have meant the creation of 250 jobs, of which a third would have gone to people who had been unemployed for more than six months.

Tolworth and Hook Rise councillor Vicki Harris said: "Let's hope this time they realise that what is needed on that site is not another Tesco store."



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Withdrawn: An artist's impression of the Tesco plans next to the A3; The state of the current site, inset

Deadlinepix KT82409

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Seven years on and still no justice

The mother of a New Malden teenager shot dead at an ice rink seven years ago has held a candlelight vigil on the anniversary of his death.

Seventeen-year-old James Andre Smartt-Ford was gunned down in front of more than 300 young people at a disco night at Streatham Ice Arena on February 3, 2007.

On Monday, his mother Tracey Smartt-Ford held a vigil outside the rink in memory of the former Coombe Boys' School and Carshalton College pupil.

James, known as Dre to family and friends, was in the area at the bottom of the stairs leading on to the ice, when he was approached by a black



Killed: Andre Smartt-Ford

youth wearing dark clothing. He was shot twice, but he managed to stagger a few

metres on to the ice before collapsing.

No one has ever been charged with his murder, despite 18 arrests – including seven on the night of the shooting – with no further action ever taken.

Mrs Smartt-Ford has since set up the Jags Foundation, a non-profit community company, which aims to address youth violence.

The Metropolitan Police are still offering a reward of up to £20,000 for information leading to the identification, arrest and prosecution of those responsible for James' death.

Anyone with information should call 101 or Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

'I was failed by system'

by NAZIA DEWJI

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A victim of domestic violence who suffered physical and emotional abuse for more than two decades has said she was "systematically failed" by the courts and people employed to help her.

The woman was speaking at the annual general meeting of Kingston's Islamic Resource Centre, where women from different backgrounds spoke out about their experiences of domestic violence on Wednesday last week.

At the Shiraz Mirza Community Hall, the woman stared at the floor and shook as she told her story.

Now four years into a legal battle with her husband that she said left her homeless and penniless, she told of how one court lost her divorce papers, while a solicitor was found guilty of misappropriating her client funds.

She said: "Four years into a legal battle and I have run out of money. It was systematic abuse against a background of domestic abuse.

"I got to the point where I was suicidal. As an abused person you need to feel validated. I have been systematically failed."

Another woman from Kingston ended up fearing for her life when

a relationship turned violent.

She said: "They are good at mirroring what you are looking for – they are very, very clever. I think I was the third such relationship in his life.

"I was locked in a room for five hours – I had my nose broken.

"It was really, really horrific. I was fighting for my life and I wasn't sure I would see my children again."

Often in cases of domestic violence many of the same women find themselves in similar situations in new relationships.

Last month's Operation Big Wing, which aimed to target perpetrators of domestic violence across London, did not make any domestic violence-related arrests in the borough.

Jo Keogh, Kingston's crisis and risk manager at domestic violence support group One Stop Shop, said the same perpetrators cropped up again and again.

She said: "You have to remember it is not just the same victim, it's also the same perpetrator. And that perpetrator will go on to another abusive relationship.

"It is far more likely that you

will see the same name of a male perpetrator come up time and time again than see the same victim. We need more money put into perpetrator programmes.

"It is about holding somebody to account through the criminal justice system.

"I do have faith in the criminal justice system. I have seen people go into prison for domestic abuse."

In the past two years the number of domestic violence incidents in Kingston has dropped while detection rates have increased.

A spokesman from Kingston police said: "The detection rate last rolling year was 43.2 per cent, this year it is 56.8 per cent – an increase of 13.6 per cent.

"This is an increase of 32 offences detected.

"We take all allegations of domestic violence seriously and will continue to investigate robustly."

Kingston One Stop is open every Monday, from 9.30am to 12.30pm, at Kinggate Church, above the King's Tun in Clarence Street, Kingston.

No appointment is necessary. Call 07917 271549 for more information.

Your views on the Muybridge nudes plans

The company behind the new Riverside Kingston restaurant development has announced plans to put large photos of nude

women by Kingston photography pioneer Eadweard Muybridge on the front of the building.

Last week, Adriana de Sousa Calado asked passersby outside the new complex what they thought:



Johanna O'Keefe, 50, retired, said: "I think it is acceptable. We are in 2014 and people are more open-minded these days."



Francesca Piazza, 27, Kingston University student, said: "If it is the work of a famous man from Kingston, I don't see why not show it."



Kanchan Karla, 22, student, said: "I don't think people will look at this as art. It can be interpreted in a sexual way, for most people."



Ruth William, 24, student, said: "If pictures of naked women are going to be put up there, naked men should be there too."



Peter Clark, 66, church minister, said: "I am neutral about it, as long as it is done respectfully and the photographs are decent."

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Beat goes on and on and on at disused warehouse

Hundreds of revellers descended upon Chessington for an all-night rave that could be heard for miles around.

Kingston police have since arrested one man and secured the disused warehouse in Cox Lane industrial estate where an estimated 500 people partied until about 8.45am on Sunday.

Up to 15 squatters have also left the premises voluntarily.

Residents in Chessington, Berrylands, Surbiton and New Malden all reported hearing the noise throughout Saturday night and Sunday morning.

One Chessington resident, who did not give their name, said: "There were hundreds of young adults roaming the streets making noise and the

by JON SHARMAN

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music was heard in the surrounding areas.

"The music was still going on at 8.30am and only two police cars on site who said that they only started at 8am and were dealing with it.

"It just looked like they were having a chat to some of the party-goers."

One woman from Malden Road in New Malden said: "It sounded like a kango hammer.

"I thought it was somebody drilling. We thought they were doing roadworks."

Several people vented their frustration at the seemingly slow reaction of police.

On Monday, Kingston police

arrested a man at the Cox Lane site on suspicion of breaching his bail and possessing drugs.

A police spokesman said the property was now secure and had been returned to the owners after squatters left voluntarily.

Chief Inspector Gary Taylor said: "During the course of the night Kingston officers liaised with the security from the event to ensure a clear dialogue with the organisers.

"Following a risk assessment we believed it was safer to manage the event in the location rather than have the potential for possible large scale incident while trying to close it down.

"With police pressure, a phased closure was

implemented starting at 6am, finally closing at 9am. We are not aware of any reports of criminality from this party during the event."

A Kingston Council spokesman said: "We will continue to support the police wherever we can to prevent illegal activities such as this taking place in Kingston."

Chessington North councillor Margaret Thompson said: "Neither [Kingston Council] nor the police knew about it in advance and it did not have permission from anyone."

In 2000, a rave in Tolworth Court Farm saw thousands of travellers party for three days before leaving. Police said at the time dispersing the ravers could have caused a public order problem.



Illegal party: The warehouse in Cox Lane industrial estate; knives and bottles, top, found after the event

Deadlinepix KT82827

Trio charged over robbery

Three men have been charged following an alleged daylight raid at the Apple store in Kingston.

Yannick Domingos, 24, of no fixed address and Perry Jackson, 18, of Grange Park Road, Waltham Forest have both been charged with shoplifting and assault with intent to resist arrest.

Boris Ble, 23, of Little Ilford

Lane in Newham was charged with shoplifting and common assault.

They have been bailed to appear at Wimbledon Magistrates' Court on Friday, February 14.

Police were called to the gadget shop inside the Bentall Centre just before 11.30am on Friday, January 31, following reports of a heist.

Momentum gains from £3k



Grant: Momentum marks 10 years of the charity

A Kingston charity supporting children with cancer and life-limiting conditions has been given £3,000 to continue taking families on holiday.

Lloyds Bank Community Fund awarded the money to Momentum, to continue taking families on short breaks to the charity's two holiday homes in the New Forest.

War memories

Researchers in Kingston have been given a lottery grant to create an exhibition of life in the borough during the First World War.

The Kingston Museum and Heritage Service has received £51,000 for the project. Stories of young soldiers, warplane builders and more will open at Kingston Museum from May.

Healthy eating

Cooks at YMCA canteens in Surbiton and Kingston's Hawker Centre have been given awards for helping diners eat healthily.

The awards were part of a Kingston Council public health scheme which aims to persuade diners to eat less fatty, salty and high-sugar foods.

LEISURE SECTION
- PAGE 17

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Gnashers flossed and found

A football fan who left his false teeth at an AFC Wimbledon match thanked fellow fans who helped reunite him with his gnashers.

George, 66, who asked the Kingston Guardian not to print his surname to avoid teasing, said the dentures must have slipped out of his pocket before kick-off at last Saturday's game against Exeter.

He denied internet speculation the false teeth had fallen out while he was eating a pre-match pie and said he did not wear them often, despite complaints from his girlfriend.

AFC Wimbledon started the search

by tweeting: "Can the power of twitter reunite a supporter with their teeth?"

Fans and others, including BBC sports presenter Jacqui Oatley, rallied to help, using the hashtag #bringthechompshome.

George said: "It's all smiles again. I've been so embarrassed about it."

The lifelong Wimbledon fan, who started going to games with his uncle aged six when he lived in Southfields, added: "I'm glad I've been a source of a bit of amusement."

He collected his teeth at the recent Darlington game where the entire team signed a ball for him.

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Got noodle: A man is led out of Noodle Express by police

Police swoop in dine raids

by JON SHARMAN

jon.sharman@london.newsquest.co.uk

Diners at a New Malden Chinese restaurant found themselves in the middle of an immigration raid.

Police and Home Office officials raided Noodle Express, in Coombe Road, on Thursday January 23, moving on two workers before arresting another.

Confused punters were still allowed in for dinner, sharing the restaurant with burly enforcement officers wearing stab vests.

A 43-year-old Chinese man, who the Home Office later said was a failed asylum seeker, and a 26-year-old Sri Lankan man who had overstayed his visa, were led out of Noodle Express.

Another Chinese man, 24, was arrested for working in breach of his visa conditions. He is now in immigration detention pending removal from the country.

Noodle Express manager Joey Lam said: "It's definitely a misunderstanding. We do our job."

"We've been here for 15 or 20 years. We never get people working without permits and things like that."

Officers also visited the nearby Ephesus kebab shop, finding

another man thought to be working illegally.

Sergeant Eddie Armstrong, from Kingston police, said: "As [officers] entered, a male was seen to run off. A short time later, the male was located and arrested."

The man, a 22-year-old from Pakistan, had overstayed his visa.

He was put on immigration bail and could be removed if he is found to have no right to remain in the UK. Officials said the man had been living in a disused kitchen space.

Both businesses could be fined £10,000 for each illegal worker, if they cannot prove they carried out checks on them.

A visit to the Royal Gurkha restaurant earlier in the evening did not turn up any illegal workers.

The Home Office said the service station in Brighton Road, Surbiton, was also raided recently.

A 31-year-old Sri Lankan man found working in breach of his visa could be removed from the UK.

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Recovery:
Jonny
Benjamin
with Neil
Laybourn



Reunited

A personal trainer from Berrylands has found himself catapulted to national fame as a lifesaver.

Neil Laybourn, 31, saved the life of Jonny Benjamin six years ago as the younger man, just 20 at the time, prepared to take his own life on Waterloo Bridge.

Earlier this month Mr Benjamin launched the Find Mike campaign online and in the press to find the mystery man who helped him on that wet January day in 2008 – and the pair were reunited on Tuesday.

Mr Laybourn, who runs a gym in central London, said: "I couldn't believe it when I saw the campaign, I got in touch straight away.

by JON SHARMAN

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"I was so pleased to see how well Jonny was doing. I had thought about him over the years and had always hoped he was OK.

"When we met, it was clear how much that encounter on the bridge meant to Jonny, he told me it was a pivotal moment in his life.

"I did what anyone would do. I wasn't trying to fix his problems that day, I just listened."

Mr Benjamin, who has a form of schizophrenia, was helped in his campaign by charity Rethink Mental Illness.

He said: "It means the world to me to finally have the opportunity to say thank you.

"That day on the bridge my life hit rock bottom, but meeting Neil, I felt so happy, it couldn't be more of a contrast.

"It's as though I've come full circle and that chapter of my life has now closed. I want everyone to know that you can recover and that things can get better."

Paul Jenkins, Rethink chief executive, said: "We don't talk about these issues enough, but the more we do, the more we break down the stigma that surrounds them."

Princess opens charity HQ

Princess Anne visited Kingston last week to officially open the headquarters of development charity VSO.

The Princess Royal met staff, trustees and volunteers and watched an assessment session of a potential volunteer.

Her arrival at the London Road offices, flanked by motorbike outriders and police cars, was met with curiosity outside.

VSO chief executive Marg Mayne said: "We hope Princess Anne enjoyed meeting our volunteers and hearing about our work fighting poverty through volunteering. They were delighted by the interest she showed."



Warm welcome: Princess Anne meets VSO staff

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Briefly

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Now the victory of mythical Seething Wells goat-boy, Lefi Ganderson, over evil giant Thamas Deeton, will be commemorated by a Surbiton charity shop. Fara, in Victoria Road, will open after a refurbishment to reveal a mural of Lefi by artist Jane Ragget.

RENT REC: Kingston Council is looking to rent out the Alexandra Recreation Ground sports pavilion in Tolworth to a new leaseholder.

A new tenant would have to repair parts of the building, including the roof, in exchange for a rent reduction. Proposals should allow sports teams already using the pavilion to continue doing so.

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Disgraced ex-leader now in Brixton prison

by ROSS LOGAN

ross.logan@london.newsquest.co.uk

Disgraced former council leader Derek Osbourne has been moved to a prison plagued by drugs, bullying and intimidation.

The ex-politician, who was sentenced to two years in prison in October for possessing and distributing thousands of indecent images of children, has been moved from Wandsworth prison to category C Brixton.

Famous former inmates include Mick Jagger, philosopher Bertrand Russell, rapper Giggs and former Labour leader George Lansbury.

The cells were vermin-infested and plagued by gang violence when chief inspector for England and Wales Anne Owers visited in 2008.

The prison is for inmates who are considered unlikely to try to escape, but who cannot be trusted in a category D or open prison.

It houses up to 798 prisoners across four residential units.

Facilities include a gym, which offers a range of accredited physical education programmes, and a newly-refurbished learning and skills centre.

But a 2013 annual report by the



Jail move: Derek Osbourne, left, has been sent to Brixton prison, right

Deadlinepix KT79131

Independent Monitoring Board said there were drugs, gambling and intimidation inside.

The report said: "Brixton's accommodation is old, and of poor standard, from a lack of historic capital investment.

"A major concern for the board this year has been the availability of illicit drugs, mobile phones and other items of contraband.

"This has led to gambling,

indebtedness, bullying and intimidation, resulting, in some areas, in a significant deterioration of the generally harmonious regime in the prison."

Most prisoners share a cell with bunk beds, with an uncovered and sometimes unscreened toilet.

In 2012, it was the setting of chef Gordon Ramsay's television show Gordon Behind Bars, where he taught inmates to cook.

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All you need is Love Kingston: The Applecore Beatles, left, and Fear and Loathing, right, will be entertaining diners

Gourmet meal is luck of the draw

Try your luck and either eat like a king or get a taste of the breadline at a Love Kingston Day fundraiser.

Kingston College's Arthur Cotterell Theatre will be the setting for Rich Man Poor Man, a dinner and dance style event with a difference.

Rather than choosing their courses before arriving, guests draw straws to see who gets to eat a sumptuous gourmet meal and who enjoys dinner courtesy of Kingston Foodbank.

by ROSS LOGAN

ross.logan@london.newsquest.co.uk

The £20-a-head event will also feature live bands including Kingston College's own Fear and Loathing, Franklin Collective and Fab Four tribute act the Applecore Beatles.

Following the success of the inaugural Rich Man Poor Man event last year in support of the foodbank, organiser Tessa Kind has this time teamed up with Love Kingston to raise cash for all five of the



campaign's charities.

She said: "Last year was the first time I heard there was a Foodbank in Kingston.

"I was upset that in our supposedly wealthy borough there was a need for basic food donations to be handed out to families in crisis.

"I saw an opportunity to bring together various community groups and

fundraisers to put on a special event to raise funds for the foodbank and I pitched it to Paul Pickhaver the manager.

"He loved it and offered support by providing publicity, organising raffle prizes and providing the ingredients we needed for the poor man meal.

"News spread and the evening sold out very quickly. Just over £1,000 was raised but, more importantly, people became aware of the struggle some families face in our own

neighbourhoods and pledged continued support.

"I am thrilled to have been asked to get involved in Love Kingston Day and I'm really looking forward to this next event."

Rich Man Poor Man takes place on Friday, February 14, from 7pm to 11pm.

For tickets email richmanpoormanevents@gmail.com.



For more visit
kingstonguardian.co.uk/
lovekingston

Cells 'like the Hilton'

A man arrested with cannabis and heroin took the unusual step of retweeting a story about himself before praising the hospitality of Kingston police's new cells.

Liam Ditchfield, 23, of Langley Road, Surbiton, was charged with possession of cannabis and heroin as part of Operation Big Wing on January 24.

The next day he took to Twitter under the name LiamDitchy to say: "Sadly I pleaded guilty, never had much choice and for the record Kingston police station was like the Hilton but free :)"

Kingston police cheekily tweeted back: "No complimentary dressing gowns here! We are open 24/7 though for anyone suspected of breaking the law! No need to book!"



Fair cop: The retweet

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Rocking at the Rose?

by ROSS LOGAN

ross.logan@london.newsquest.co.uk

Kingston could one day have itself a new rock music venue – in the shape of the Rose Theatre.

Theatre bosses have held talks with independent music store Banquet Records about the possibility of bringing some of its live shows to the High Street venue.

It opens up the possibility of the likes of Liam Gallagher, Franz Ferdinand or Suede – who have all played Kingston shows organised by Banquet – one day playing live in the Rose auditorium.

Although it is unlikely such a show can be organised soon, Rose chief executive Robert O'Dowd has spoken to Banquet manager Jon Tolley about the future.

Mr O'Dowd said: "It's absolutely our aim to bring contemporary music to the Rose.

"We've got a ready-made moshpit here. Everything on the ground floor can be taken out.

"I think with someone like Jon in town, who's always got an eye out for a new venue, it could definitely work."

Banquet Records has brought top acts to Kingston, including Bombay Bicycle Club and Maximo Park, who played back-to-back gigs last Thursday at the Hippodrome and McClusky's.

Meanwhile, the Rose is looking to shake up its programming after posting a loss of £204,000 in its annual accounts for 2012-13.

Although it already has a musical programme of jazz, classical and even opera, the prospect of established indie acts playing the venue would be a departure.

But it could also appeal to a

previously-untapped audience of thousands of young music fans.

However, it will not be easy. While Banquet is sometimes given only a few days' notice to organise a gig, the Rose is already finalising its 2014 autumn season.

On Sunday, an estimated 1,700 fans queued up outside McClusky's to see rock band You Me At Six play two sold-out sets – a show the Rose had to turn down because it clashed with the stage building for Fallen Angels.

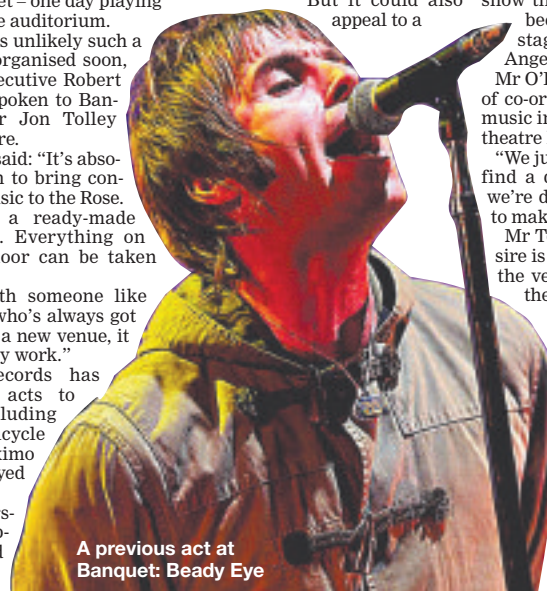
Mr O'Dowd said: "It's just a case of co-ordinating the timing of the music industry with the timing of theatre land.

"We just don't seem to be able to find a date at the moment, but we're damned if we're not going to make this work."

Mr Tolley said: "I think the desire is there, but the practices of the venue don't match up with the desire."

Kingston Councillor Barry O'Mahony, a trustee at the Rose, said: "I'd be happy to see that dialogue start.

"If you look at events such as Masks and Basques (a burlesque-style show) it can get pretty raucous. The seats on the floor can come out, and it's brilliant when that happens. It can be quite edgy."



A previous act at Banquet: Beady Eye

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I support theatre but have concerns over its funding

I am surprised that the leader of Kingston Conservatives, Howard Jones, has decided to challenge the funding of the Rose Theatre.

In 2007-08, I was a councillor and, due to circumstances, held the balance of power at the council meeting in 2007 where the Liberal Democrats requested extra funding for the Rose. I thought such financial support, that became known as the new deal, should be discussed by full council and not by a number of councillors of one party.

I refused to vote the money through and this triggered off a full council meeting a week later when the Lib Dems and myself voted it through after a full and lengthy discussion.

Prove me wrong, but I have not been aware of much Tory criticism over the years when it should be their responsibility to be asking vital questions. I do hope, now that they are taking an interest, that they will come forward with positive proposals and not just bash the Rose.

I am a great supporter of the

Rose Theatre, and want it to succeed. I do query the variety of productions staged there, but have had many great evenings at the theatre.

I am very concerned regarding the funding of the theatre in this time of austerity and feel that, if more attention had been paid to the funding over the years, the theatre would be going forward with confidence.

I would have liked to see constructive criticism from all parties, but with a commitment to the theatre.

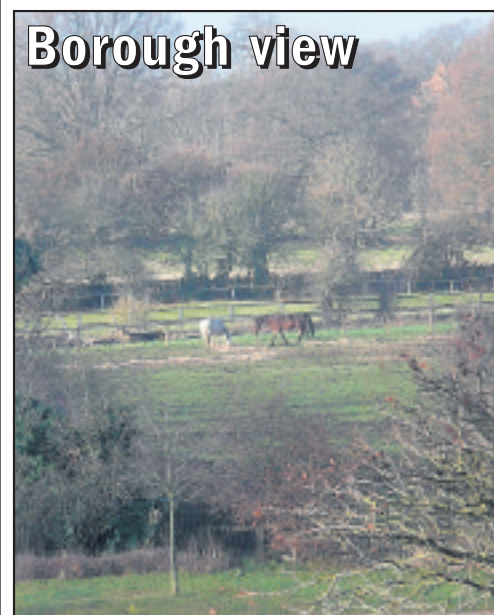
Also, what is needed is

transparency from the council regarding exactly how the community has benefited from the new deal.

Who in Kingston can apply for a free slot in the Rose? It has been brought to my attention that one organisation was refused a free slot because they were a charity only to be told that another organisation, Creative Youth/TYAF get five weeks' free space and are also a charity.

SHEILA GRIFFIN
Via email

Borough view



Denise Norman took this view looking over the south end of Raven's Ait to horses grazing in Home Park

There must be an easier way to renew blue badge

Following on from the story of the New Malden pensioner and his issue with renewing his blue badge with Kingston Council, I too had the same trouble back in October when renewing my mother's.

Because she is 76 and therefore unable to claim disability living allowance (DLA), which stops at 64, she does not automatically qualify, so

every three years we are asked to complete a 20-page form. Last time we applied, a GP's letter was insufficient.

This time, it was necessary as, despite me telling the girl at the council my mother could not actually claim DLA, she was not interested at all and just wanted to get rid of me and kept offering me the number to claim DLA.

My mother has a degenerative genetic illness that gets worse as each day passes. She now requires a wheelchair whenever we leave the house.

I accept to combat fraud these questions are necessary for some, but if an applicant has already given this information, notes should be kept so that future applications go through automatically.

Just because my mother does not claim any benefits, it should not follow that she is asked personal questions each time she reappplies, when it is clear from her history that she is not going to miraculously recover the ability to walk properly.

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Faith in human nature

I would like to send my heartfelt thanks to Louis, who found my handbag at Kempton market in October and managed to contact me to arrange

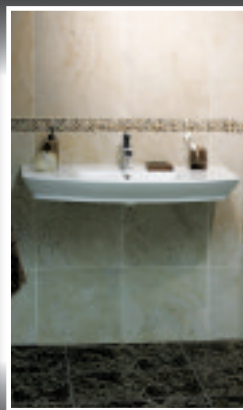
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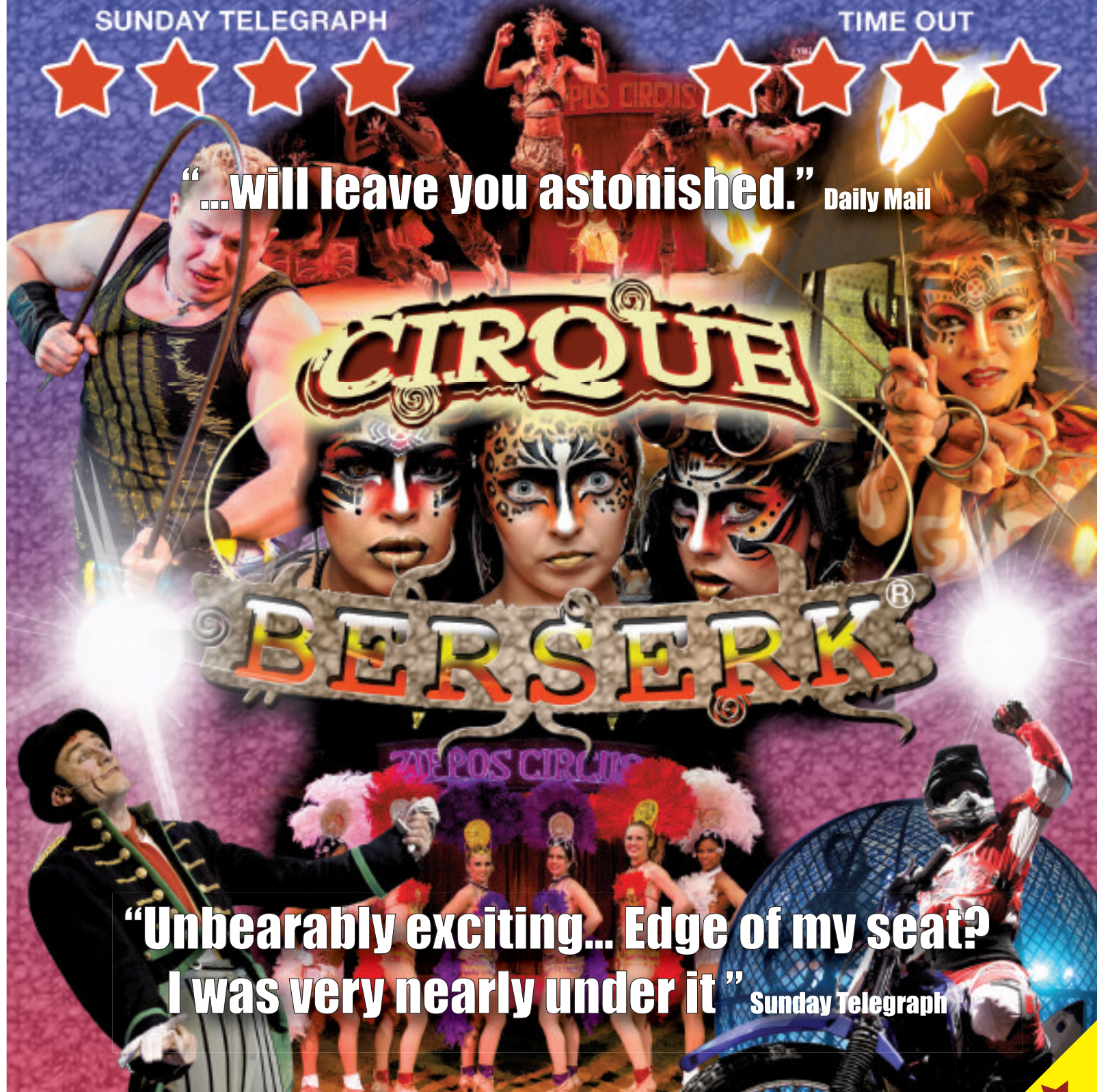
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SUNDAY TELEGRAPH

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YOUNG FOLK

An award-nominated teenage singer-songwriter will be airing his latest material at a gig in Thames Ditton next week.

Nineteen-year-old Luke Jackson is known for his distinctive voice and unique interpretation of folk music.

He has previously toured with the likes of Show of Hands, Paul Brady, Chris Wood, Steve Knightley and Boo Hewerdine, who have all expressed admiration for the promising youngster.

His critically acclaimed debut *More Than Boys*, released last year, has won him an army of admirers and helped him towards two prestigious award nominations – the Horizon Award for Best Emerging Talent and the BBC Radio 2 Young



LUKE JACKSON

Folk Award.

His follow-up, *Fumes and Faith*, has also been well received and audience members at the Ram Folk Club can find out what all the fuss is about on Friday, February 14.

● **Luke Jackson; Ram Club, the Old Cranleigh**

Club, Portsmouth Road, Thames Ditton; February 14, 8.15pm; £9/£10 on the door or ther-amclub.co.uk.

Vibe

kingstonguardian.co.uk/vibe

SCANDAL

Surbiton might not be the first place that springs to mind when you hear the phrase “sex scandal”.

But sex and scandal will be on everybody's lips when Surbiton library hosts a discussion about the naughtier side of Georgian society.

A panel of authors of historical fiction will be reading extracts from their novels and discussing life during the reigns of the Hanoverian kings.

The panel includes Sophia Tobin, whose debut novel *The Silversmith's Wife* has just been published.

Signed copies will be available thanks to the Regency Bookshop.

● **Sex, Scandal & Society – Life in Georgian England; Surbiton library, Ewell Road; February 20, 7.30pm; £2; call 020 8547 5006.**

Vibe SHORTS

SUNDAY SWING: Hard swing and bebop will be coming to the Boaters in Kingston on Sunday, courtesy of the Simon Spillet Quartet. Led by tenor saxophonist Simon Spillet – who won the BBC Jazz Rising Star award in 2007 – the band also includes John Critchinson on piano, bassist Paul Morgan and Clark Tracey – son of late jazz legend Stan – on drums.

● **Simon Spillet Quartet; the Boaters, Canbury Gardens, Lower Ham Road; Sunday, February 9, 8pm; free; call 020 8541 4672.**

GOOD CRAIC: Brighton comic Michael Fabbri will be headlining this weekend's Crack Comedy night at the Grey Horse in Kingston. He will be supported by adopted Brit Erich McElroy from Seattle, with Ben van der Velde on MC duties.

● **Crack Comedy; Grey Horse, Richmond Road, Kingston; Saturday, February 8, 8pm; £13 (£12.50 adv £8.50 concessions); call 020 8549 9790 or visit crackcomedy.com.**

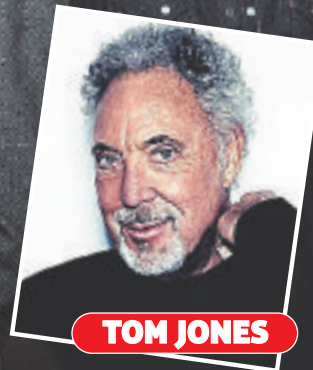
THINK KNIT: Learn the art of finger knitting at next month's textile workshop hosted by the Rose Theatre. The Think Make Do workshop will be demonstrating how to make yarn from old and unwanted clothing and turn it into bracelets and necklaces. Clothing will be provided, but old t-shirts, dresses and trousers are welcome.

● **Textile Workshop; Rose Theatre, High Street, Kingston; Tuesday, March 4, 7pm to 9pm; £15; call 0844 482 1556 or visit rosetheatrekingston.org.**



SANDOWN LIVE

● **Tom Jones at Sandown Live; Sandown Park racecourse, Portsmouth Road, Esher; July 30, times tbc; £40, £36 early bird, £20 children aged 5 to 17; call 0844 5793012 or visit sandown.co.uk.**
● **Wet Wet Wet at Sandown Live; July 23, times tbc; £37.50, £33.75 early bird, £20 children aged 5 to 17.**



TOM JONES

GOING LIVE

It's Not Unusual to have fun at Sandown Live, and neither is it a Sweet Little Mystery, writes Laura Proto.

Two top acts have been announced for this year's summer concerts at Esher racecourse.

Wet Wet Wet are the first act on the bill, having recently completed a 12-date greatest hits tour.

The Scottish band have

been entertaining fans with their music since 1982 and remain among the UK's best-selling artists of all time, with more than 15m singles and albums sold to date.

Among the band's most famous songs are *Love is All Around*, *Goodnight Girl* and *Sweet Little Mystery*, all of which fans can expect to hear at the summer concert.

Back by popular demand, Tom Jones returns to the Sandown Park stage for the third time in four years.

The Voice coach will take to the stage one week after Wet Wet Wet, with huge crowds expected to resemble that of his 2011 and 2012 concerts.

The Welsh singing supremo's career has gone from strength to strength, with more than 100m record

sales worldwide under his belt.

Rupert Trevelyan, regional director London of Jockey Club racecourses, says: “Sandown Live is an institution in Surrey and beyond. We are thrilled to announce Wet Wet Wet as the first act confirmed.”

“Sandown Live and Tom Jones go together wonderfully well. Tom is regularly our most popular artist

and his legions of followers will be thrilled that he is returning to Sandown Park on Wednesday, July 30.

“We're expecting a rush for tickets for one of the must-see music events of the whole of 2014, so all racing and music fans are urged to reserve their tickets as soon as they can.”

Both acts will grace the stage after an afternoon of racing has finished.



INSIDE: Dancing shoes p18 Visit the love doctor p19



FOR MORE ON THESE AND OTHER STORIES VISIT kingstonguardian.co.uk/vibe

StrictlyFitsteps

Every year Strictly Come Dancing stars reveal how they have shed pounds and stretched muscles they did not even know they had, writes *Rebecca Middleton*. The rest of us eat mince pies in front of the TV and secretly wish we could undergo the same magical transformation.

Now Strictly Come Dancing professionals Natalie Lowe and Ian Waite, along with ex-contestant Olympic swimmer Mark Foster, pictured, have devised a dance fitness workout to inspire us all to get in shape and learn some new moves.

The trending workout is similar to zumba, but inspired by more classical dances, like ballroom and Latin American.

I joined a FitSteps class in Wimbledon and found the workout more aerobics than Strictly, but my aching stomach muscles the morning after confirmed the benefits of holding a forced upright dance pose for the hour-long session.

Led by Australian professional, Samantha Tedeschi, the class attracted a broad range of aspiring movers, from ex-professional dancers wanting to keep their muscles toned, to stay-at-home mums and a couple of pensioners

looking for a fun, sociable way to exercise.

The class started with energetic numbers from samba, cha cha cha and the jive, designed to increase the heart rate; and cooled down with waltz and rumba tracks, with slower movements and elegant postures for all-over body toning.

Don't worry if you're new to ballroom, there is no Craig Revel Horwood to pick at your faulty footwork. The workout is really about getting moving and having fun while improving fitness.

Samantha made everyone face away from the mirror so we felt free to "express ourselves". I'm not sure what Bruno would have said if he'd had a look-in, but I like to think Len would have given us a high score for performance.

FitSteps is a great exercise

option for people who think life's too short to while away on a treadmill. Get your friends together and you could be dancing along to the telly when next year's star line-up graces the nations living rooms.



● Fitsteps classes are held in Kingston every Wednesday from 8pm at the Richard Mayo Centre in Eden Street. Thursday classes are also being held regularly, starting at 8.15pm. Classes are £6.50, or £4 for a trial class. Call Karen on 07707 333112 or email karen@stagerightstudios.co.uk.

FITSTEPS

● Adele Watts runs two Fitsteps classes on a Tuesday in Surbiton. The morning session takes place at Surbiton Racket and Fitness Club in Berrylands from 9.45am to 10.45am. Her evening class is held at 6.30pm at St Mark's Church

Hall in St Marks' Hill. Classes are £6. Call Adele on 07957 459238 or email adele.watts@blueyonder.co.uk.

● Fitsteps by Strictly Jem take place in Rhodrons Avenue in Chessington every Monday from 7.15pm to 8pm. Call 07843 568855 or email jemg456@hotmail.com.

Little Red number

Katy B will be dropping in to Kingston tonight to preview tracks from her new album, Little Red.

The Lights On singer will headline Banquet Records' weekly New Slang night at McClusky's this evening, February 6.

The pop star, who effortlessly combines dubstep, RnB, garage and dance won an NME Award for best dancefloor anthem in 2012 and was nominated for the Mercury Prize in 2011.

An as-yet-unknown support act will also be appearing, which Banquet promises will be "a good one". Banquet manager Jon Tolley

said: "We welcome one of the UK's finest pop stars Katy B along with her band."

"Fans of AlunaGeorge and Chloe Howl to Tinie Tempah and Julio Bashmore will love this show."

"Support is a good one, but we can't announce it until the day of the show."

Some tickets were still available for tonight's gig at the time of going to press.

All tickets must be collected from McClusky's before the show starts.

● Katy B; New Slang, McClusky's, Bishop's Hall, Kingston; Thursday, February 6; £8-£13; banquetrecords.com.

At New Slang: Katy B
Picture: Stuart Sevastos




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Vibe

CALLING THE LOVE DOCTOR

Finding a date for Valentine's Day is a potential minefield but love doctor Hayley Quinn says it does not have to be like that, writes Robert Fisk.

The matchmaking expert claims she has helped teach more than 100,000 men across the globe how to seduce women and now she is sharing her tips with **Vibe** readers – both men and women.

With any luck her

advice will see you sharing a special moment with your beloved come February 14.

If you fancy someone who works in your office then Quinn says make them know how you feel, but keep the date suggestion fairly casual.

She says: "Just say, 'It's good chatting to you, but it's always in the office and I'm concentrating on my work so

let's catch up for a coffee some time'.

"Asking them for a coffee says what it is going to be and how long it will last and if it turns into dinner then great.

"You choose to be in the friend zone because you don't want to communicate how you are feeling.

"It is better to get a feeling of where you are."

And if the one you want is a stranger who you see

commuting every day then be friendly and start a conversation.

The 27-year-old

says: "You

need to get

good at

getting the

other person

to trust

you by speak-

ing about

yourself.

"Instead

of saying,

"What stop are

you getting off at?" say,

"I can't believe I have five stops

to go before I get home to Croy-

don". And even if it feels like

there's no good reason, always

ask for their phone number."

And using her advice a trip

to your local can end up much

better than you thought.

She says: "The most effective

line is 'I just saw you and I had

to come and say hi'.

"If you can say 'I saw you walking past in that red dress and I just had to say hi', the

woman would know

you are talking to

her specifically

and not hitting

on every

woman in

the bar."

And she

says women

should not

be afraid to

make the

first move by

walking over to

where her poten-

tial partner is stand-

ing. Quinn adds: "If you

are close to him then it is

much easier to engage in con-

versation. I really believe if

you wait for them then you

will be waiting a long time."

Last year Quinn was single

on Valentine's Day, but this

year she will be going out for dinner

with her boyfriend and

going on holiday to Bruges in

Belgium.

SAY IT WITH FLOWERS Gardenia in Claremont Road, Surbiton, has you covered for beautiful flowers, and suggests red or white tulips as an elegant alternative to the tried-and-tested bunch of roses.

● **Gardenia; 17 Claremont Road, Surbiton KT6 4QR; call 020 8399 2899 or visit gardeniaoflondon.co.uk**

The most effective line is 'I just saw you and I had to come and say hi'

HAYLEY QUINN

● Visit hayleyquinn.com

A FINE romance

● Dinner options include three courses and a glass of prosecco for under £30 at the Holiday Inn, Surbiton.

Holiday Inn; Portsmouth Road, Surbiton KT6 5QQ; call 020 8786 6565 or visit holidayinn.com/surbiton.

● If you fancy a night in, make it sweet with a special cupcake box from Kingston bakery Sweet Revenge. The master bakers can create a loved-up set of treats to order, and with boxes of six or 12 cakes, you're sure to be satisfied.

Sweet Revenge; 41 Market Place, Kingston KT1 1JQ; call 0800 612 0399 or visit sweetrevengelon.com.

● And to extend your Valentine's weekend, why not visit the Rose Theatre? The town centre favourite will screen classic romance Brief Encounter. **Brief Encounter; Rose Theatre, 24-26 High Street, Kingston KT1 1HL; Sunday, February 16; call 08444 821556 or visit rosetheatre.kingston.org.**

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Credit rating holds the key

Would-be-buyers urged to review their credit reports before applying to join the Help to Buy scheme

TAMASIN COATES

property@london.newsquest.co.uk

Check your credit rating if you want to take advantage of the Government's Help to Buy scheme.

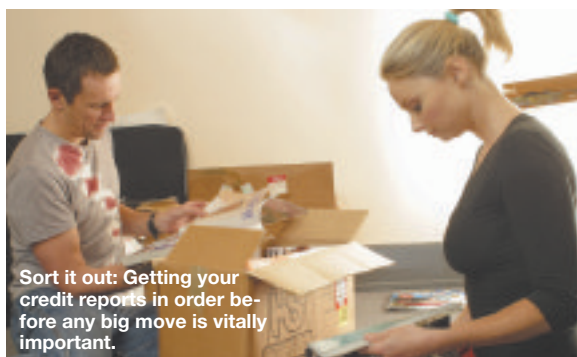
That's the advice of Experian CreditExpert which carried out research among those hoping to buy a home through the scheme. It found almost two fifths (39 per cent) of 20 to 40-year-olds were planning to apply to the Help to Buy mortgage scheme in 2014.

But only two fifths of them (40 per cent) were registered to the electoral roll at their current address – something that can be a key factor not only in passing the identity verification checks and also in ensuring credit reports are as accurate as possible.

The insight report found a quarter of would-be applicants have never reviewed their own credit report and seven per cent have not saved for a deposit.

More than a quarter (26 per cent) have saved less than the £5,000 required to partake in the scheme.

The report is based on interviews with more than 2,000 20 to 40-year-olds. It found:



Sort it out: Getting your credit reports in order before any big move is vitally important.

■ More men than women (43 per cent to 34 per cent respectively) were planning on applying for the scheme

■ The majority were in their 20s, with 33 per cent aged 20-24 years old and 31 per cent aged 25-30

■ Their household income varies widely. Although three in 10 (29 per cent) earn less than £20k a year, half earn more than £30k.

Nearly a quarter (23 per cent) enjoy a household income of twice the national average at £50,000

■ The average deposit saved by Help to Buy Hopefuls is £9,590

■ The majority (55 per cent) have a deposit of less than £10k, with 19 per cent less than £5k.



Check out the latest house prices in your area visit:
yourlocalguardian.co.uk/

With news that the Royal household is struggling to make ends meet, Gocompare.com has worked out that the British monarchy could save nearly £50,000 of taxpayers' money if they switched energy providers for Buckingham Palace alone.

The Public Accounts Committee has reported back on the state of the Queen's finances and has found that the Royal household has overspent to such an extent that it now has only £1 million surplus in its accounts, the lowest level in history.

The report said that the Queen's "antiquated" boilers are more than 60 years old. Gocompare.com has delved into the Queen's household bills and worked out ways she could save by switching.

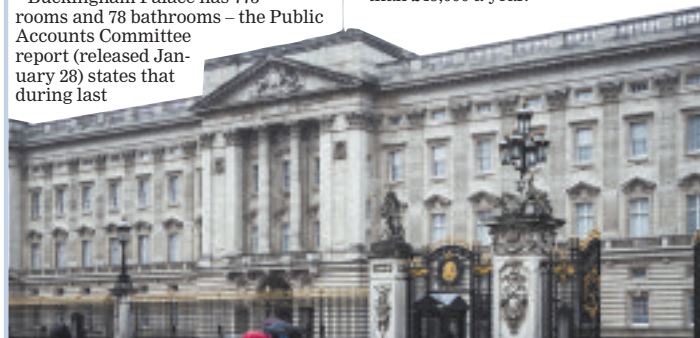
Buckingham Palace has 775 rooms and 78 bathrooms – the Public Accounts Committee report (released January 28) states that during last

One is not amused by big energy bills

year the palace's electricity consumption increased by three per cent and its gas consumption increased by 14 per cent.

The electricity bill for Buckingham Palace and the Royal Mews was £312,000 and the gas bill was £462,000.

Gocompare.com energy experts estimated that if the Royal household switched energy providers for Buckingham Palace alone they could save more than £48,000 a year.



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Poplar Grove, New Malden £2,200 pcm

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£1,150 pcm

Unfurnished, well presented, 2-bedroom 1st floor flat with fitted kitchen and modern white bathroom, communal garden, entry phone and double glazing. Situated in a quiet location and a short walk from New Malden's high street and main line station. Available immediately.

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NEW MALDEN
£1,495 pcm

Unfurnished, excellently presented 3-bedroom family home which has been refurbished throughout with newly fitted kitchen and bathroom, downstairs cloakroom, dgw and gch. Located walking distance of New Malden Centre. Available now.

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KINGSTON
£1,750 pcm

Furnished, superior 2-bedroom ground floor apartment, forming part of a substantial Grade 2 listed building. Located on prestigious Coombe Hill and set within a gated development. The property boasts gch, modern fitted kitchen and shower room, excellent parking. Available immediately.

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NEW MALDEN
£1,375 pcm

Part-Furnished, attractive 2-bedroom cottage with a delightful south facing rear patio garden, double glazing and gas central heating. Kitchen/breakfast room. Situated in a quiet cul-de-sac, 0.4 miles from New Malden main line station. Available March.

020 8949 0955



NEW MALDEN
£1,500 pcm

Unfurnished, newly refurbished 3-bedroom family home. New kitchen and bathroom, downstairs cloakroom, double glazing and GCH. Conveniently situated close to Motspur Park main line station and good local schools. Available immediately.

020 8949 0955



NEW MALDEN
£850,000

Impressive and attractive 4-bedroom family home sold with no onward chain and standing on an imposing plot with frontage of over 70ft, the house offers much scope for extension. There is the need for some internal decoration, although benefits from gch, dgw, cloakroom, double length garage and ample osp. Located striking distance of New Malden Centre.

020 8949 0955



NEW MALDEN
£459,950

Particularly spacious 4 double bedroom semi-detached family home offered in good decorative order, benefitting from gch, dgw, double glazed conservatory, good size kitchen/breakfast room, southerly aspect rear garden, osp for 2 cars. Situated close to Hogsmill Green Belt, easy reach of main line station.

020 8949 0955



NEW MALDEN
£425,000

Semi-detached 3-bedroom halls adjoining family house. The property has undergone complete refurbishment and offers generous adaptable accommodation with gch, dgw, open plan kitchen-diner, garden with garage at rear. The house is within the catchment area of Burlington Infants and Junior Schools and has good transport links close to hand.

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£945 pcm

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One bedroom ground floor apartment completely re-modernised throughout set in the sought after, tree lined Lovelace road within 5 minutes walk of Surbiton town centre with its range of facilities and station with its excellent service to London Waterloo.

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SURBITON
£1,895,000

Beautiful 6 bedroom detached character residence with imposing red brick frontage set in one of the town's most sought after roads located in the heart of Surbiton and is within 200 metres of the town centre with its excellent rail service to Waterloo.

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£354,950

An immaculately presented 3 bedroom end of terraced house situated in a cul-de-sac location within walking distance to Chessington North Station and shops. This property consists of 3 good sized bedrooms, through lounge/dining room, extended kitchen, south facing 60' rear garden with cabin/office and off street parking

020 8391 3969



CHESSINGTON
£350,000

A 2 bedroom semi detached Victorian house situated in one of 'Hook's' most sought after locations. This property benefits from a 13' upstairs bathroom, 2 bedrooms, through lounge/dining room, gas central heating, off street parking and a 100' rear garden

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Awaiting EPC

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Four bedroom detached bungalow which has been refurbished to an extremely high standard. With its flexible and versatile living space this is a fabulous family home and must be seen to fully appreciate the space.



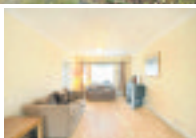
£475,000 | Chessington 020 8945 5628



Awaiting EPC

Epsom

Three bedroom detached house set in a popular residential road. Large entrance hallway which has doors leading to a good size lounge area with bi-folding doors which in turn leads to a great sized private rear garden.



£475,000 | Chessington 020 8945 5628



Awaiting EPC

New Malden

Fabulous family home with enormous scope to build on the side as well as the rear. Comprising two reception rooms, kitchen and a bedroom or playroom, four bedrooms upstairs, bathroom and separate WC.



£450,000 | Chessington 020 8945 5628



Awaiting EPC

Chessington

Fabulous four bedroom family home. Separate living room with bay window, utility room with door to garden, stunning kitchen with an island, integrated oven and hob, granite work tops opening up to a gorgeous dining room.



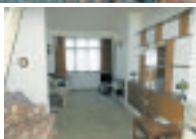
£400,000 | Chessington 020 8945 5628



Awaiting EPC

Epsom

An extremely spacious, four bedroom semi detached bungalow in need of updating but with lots of scope and heaps of potential.



£375,000 | Chessington 020 8945 5628



Awaiting EPC

Chessington

This extremely well presented three bedroom end terraced family home is offered to the market with no onward chain.



£350,000 | Chessington 020 8945 5628



EPC E

Chessington

A fabulous three bedroom house with a 24ft open plan lounge, as well as a separate dining area which opens out to a large bright kitchen. There is also the added benefit of a downstairs cloakroom.



£325,000 | Chessington 020 8945 5628



Awaiting EPC

Chessington

Scope to extend to the side Subject to Planning Permission. Fantastic opportunity to purchase this two double bedroom end terraced house with huge potential.



£290,000 | Chessington 020 8945 5628



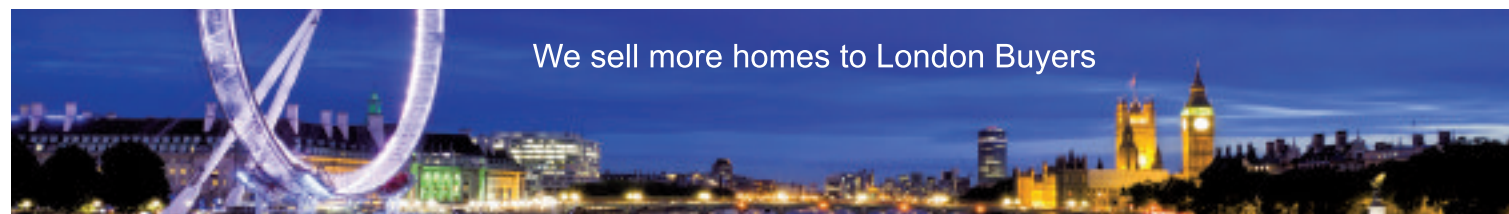
EPC D

Epsom

Located in a popular residential cul-de-sac is this first floor maisonette benefits from spacious accommodation. With two bedrooms and a private rear garden.



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Expressions of Interest Invited

Alexandra Recreation Ground Pavilion, King Charles Road, KT5 9BE

Notice is hereby given that Kingston Council is intending to grant a lease (length of lease to be agreed but it is anticipated that the minimum term would be for five years) of the pavilion at Alexandra Recreation Ground. The Council seeks proposals from interested parties.

The Council is proposing to enter into a full repairing and insuring lease of the building, which includes initial structural work to the pavilion roof to be undertaken by the tenant. In return the Council would offer a rent free period to reflect the incoming tenant's initial cost to restore the pavilion.

Any interested party would be required to carry out their own conditional survey so that they can determine accurately what expenditure is likely to be required by them, prior to entering into any agreement. Proposals should ideally include provision for the continued shared use of the pavilion with sport activities that currently take place at the park and offer the prospect of use by the wider community.

Any proposal should also include details of how the works to bring the building back into repair are to be funded, as well as evidence that this funding is in place or that it will be forthcoming from the party's funding source. The proposed demise is limited to the building only, with the wider park remaining open for public use.

The Prospective Tenant's Details Form, which is required to be completed, is available upon request from **Rob Waite** on **020 8547 5329** and should be received no later than 5pm on 14 March 2014.



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Obituary Notice

DEBRA CALLOW

Loving, cherished, Daughter, Mother and friend has sadly passed away. Funeral to be held at Kingston

Crematorium on Wednesday 12th February at 1.00pm.

The family have kindly requested for no flowers but a donation, if desired, to The National Brain Appeal Charity - Debra Callow Appeal. Wake to follow at 2.00pm at The Pottery, Park Road, Kingston Upon Thames.

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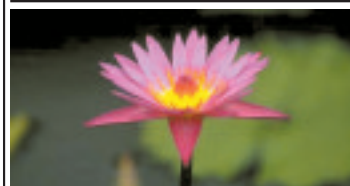
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ROMANTIC TIMES Slim, active, honest Richmond male, short brown hair, enjoys running, meals out, fishing, walks in the park and social drinks, would like to meet a reliable, caring woman, for romance and happy times. Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 159617 or send a text to 80360

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UNDER THE STARS Non-smoking Epsom male, 60, 6ft, medium build, own home/s, trustworthy, easygoing and solvent, enjoys dining, theatre, music and travel, searching for a similar woman, for lasting relationship. Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 143338

IT COULD BE FOREVER Single chap, 60, 5'11", medium build, from Redhill, likes the simple things in life, looking for an easygoing and loving female, for companionship and maybe more. Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 109068 or send a text to 80360

INTRODUCE ME TO SOMETHING NEW Professional, solvent Surrey chap, 61, good sense of humour, varied interests, looking for a sincere female, 40-60, for love, romance and plenty of happiness. Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 104782

ARE YOU OUT THERE? Irishman living in London, 61, 5'6", painter and decorator, looking for a black lady, 5'6", slim-build, 45-55, with a good sense of humour. Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 126309

A HEART FULL OF LOVE Old fashioned, romantic male, 50, 5'7", loving and cuddly, GSOH, enjoys most things in life, would like to share it with a nice, happy, affectionate lady, for a long term relationship. Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 112757

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LIVING LIFE Kind, laid back Epsom male, 54, 5'8", professional, blue eyes, would like to meet an attractive, slim female, age 43-54, for fun times and more. Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 158783 or send a text to 80360

LET'S START NOW Confident, well-travelled Kingston male, 56, 5'11", ex rugby player, own house/car, likes pubs, restaurants, travelling, looking for an attractive, N/S female, 46-56. Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 128579 or send a text to 80360

LIFE IS GOOD Friendly Surrey male, 58, 5'11", slim build, would like to meet a nice, friendly female, of a similar age, for romance and good company. Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 148601 or send a text to 80360

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ARE YOU OUT THERE? Irishman living in London, 61, 5'6", painter and decorator, looking for a black lady, 5'6", slim-build, 45-55, with a good sense of humour. Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 126309

FINALLY FOUND You Slim, attractive, quiet Molesey male, 61, 5'10", GSOH, widower, likes the cinema, nature, travel and music, would like to meet a tactile, loving, slim lady, for a long term relationship. Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 157098 or send a text to 80360

SOLID AS A ROCK Charming Irish male, 61, living in Croydon, enjoys rugby, golf, tennis and more, 76, likes music, pub lunches and animals, would like to meet an attractive, trendy woman, age 60-70, for fun, friendship and more. Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 157490 or send a text to 80360

DROP ME A LINE Youthful Croydon chap, 61, slim build, 5'8", GSOH, enjoys pub, countryside, fishing, modern and 60s music, seeking a similar outgoing and warm female, for friendship and maybe more. Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 112227

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LOVE IS OUT THERE Presentable, young-at-heart, solvent Walton male, 65, 6ft, slim build, N/S, retired, GSOH, seeking a feminine, modern lady, for friendship and hopefully a loving relationship. Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 159931 or send a text to 80360

KEEP ME COMPANY Understanding, reliable, Kingston Upon Thames man, 65, retired. Would like to meet a romantic woman who is also retired, 60-70, for company, friendship and hopefully a long term relationship. Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 163335 or send a text to 80360

BEST THINGS IN LIFE Divorced Caterham guy, 65, N/S, 5'11", easygoing and considerate, enjoys cooking, theatre, sport, dining and travel, seeking a bubbly, positive and caring lady, for laughs & enjoying life. Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 112226

CLASSIC GENT Friendly, sociable, smart Carshalton man, 73, own car, enjoys all types of music and occasional drinks at the pub, would like to meet a modern lady, between 60-70, for good conversation and more. Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 150220 or send a text to 80360

GET ON THAT PHONE! Smart, tactile, loyal 70s Carshalton gent, likes pub lunches, dancing, drives, music and more, wit attractive, trendy lady, with old fashioned values. Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 135054

NOT QUITE PAST IT! Retired, professional Hampton male, 75, GSOH, solvent, N/S, enjoys gardening, cooking, walks and meals in or out, searching for a similar female, positive with GSOH, for company and maybe more. Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 127526 or send a text to 80360

HAPPINESS INTO YOUR LIFE Friendly, easygoing, genuine Dorking male, 76, likes music and 60s music, pub lunches and animals, would like to meet an attractive, trendy woman, age 60-70, for fun, friendship and more. Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 157490 or send a text to 80360

LOOKING FOR ANOTHER Kind, sensitive, adventurous, creative Walton-on-Thames girl, 39, looking to meet a woman, 29-50, who likes music, art, cinema, going to concerts, animals, travel, for friendship, dating and relationship. Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 161212 or send a text to 80360

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FRIENDSHIP ONLY Straight, decent, witty London mother, 50, N/S, loves dancing, wine bars, the cinema and watching sports, seeking a like-minded female, for friendship and days out. Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 148845 or send a text to 80360

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FUN AND LAUGHTER Out-going, friendly, 48 year old bisexual London male, 6' non-smoker. Would like to meet a like-minded male aged 25-60 who is a non-smoker, for fun and friendship. Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 163788

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GENUINE YOU Bi male, 63, would like to meet similar male for fun and friendship. Call 0905 005 2490 and enter box number 152831 or send a text to 80360

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the top 15 world rankings for over a decade and is the world record holder for hitting 190 maximum 147 breaks, earning him the nickname of Mr Maximum. A regular snooker commentator for the BBC, Willie has made many television appearances including in 2005, the BBC's Strictly Come Dancing. *Matt Westcott reports*

What was your first car?

The first car that I ever bought was an Austin 1100. I decided to modify it and put some really wide, fat wheels on it. I remember at the time thinking it looked really good, however, now looking back it probably didn't. I think I bought it for around £1,000, which wasn't bad for a first car then.

How many times did it take to pass your test?

I took my test on the day of my 17th birthday as I was very keen to get driving. I think that it was in a Vauxhall.

Who would be your ideal fantasy passenger and where would you go?

I think that as such a keen golfer, my ultimate fantasy passenger would have to be Tiger Woods. I don't think there would be anywhere in particular that I would like to go, but just to drive along the longest motorway possible. I could then ask him all of those questions I have always wanted to about his game, his key to success and also get some tips for my game too!

What is your dream car?

My dream car would have to be a black Bentley convertible. I can't say that the Porsches and Ferraris of this world have ever appealed to me, however, the Bentley on the

other hand is definitely the 'best in its class'. I tend to tell myself that I could never have one as I do too many miles and it wouldn't be as practical!

How would you describe your driving style?

I would have to say that my driving style is safe, but I can be quick when needed. Only on the roads where there is no danger, of course.

What is playing on your in car iPod or CD player at the moment?

The majority of the time I listen to TalkSport in the car. I love keeping up-to-date with all the sport and find that it makes a more informative, yet entertaining, dimension to my journeys.

What do you drive now?

I currently drive a silver Chrysler 300C which is fantastic for long journeys and just general motorway driving. I also need a big car to make sure that my golf clubs fit in the boot!

A third of drivers simply don't enjoy driving anymore, according to a poll by road safety charity, the Institute of Advanced Motorists (IAM).

The main reason given for not enjoying driving on the roads was the cost of fuel (51 per cent) closely followed by congestion (41 per cent, no longer excited by driving (28 per cent) and less leisure time (25.9 per cent).

Of those who responded:

- 39 per cent still consider driving and riding for fun as their hobby.
- One third still go out for a spin.
- 53 per cent think compared with other road users they are good drivers, with just over 45 per cent responding that they are very good.

78 per cent would usually drive when out with their partner.

• Half don't always feel relaxed when their partner is in the passenger seat.

It seems that other road users are the problem with over 60 per cent stating that it's the behaviour of other drivers that makes them feel the most nervous.

This was followed by bad weather conditions and driving near to lorries.



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0% APR REPRESENTATIVE.[^] NOW THE HARDEST DECISION IS, WHICH ONE?



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[†]Model shown is an Alfa MiTo 875cc TB TwinAir 105 bhp Sportiva at £16,300 OTR[†] excluding Alfa Red Special Paint at £450 and an Alfa Giulietta 1.4 TB 120 bhp Progression at £18,745 OTR[†] including Luna Pearl Metallic Paint at £510. Range of official fuel consumption figures for the Alfa MiTo and Giulietta range: Urban 34.0 – 64.2 mpg (8.3 – 4.4 l/100km); Extra Urban 53.3 – 97.4 mpg (5.3 – 2.9 l/100km); Combined 44.1 – 80.7 mpg (6.4 – 3.5 l/100km). CO₂ emissions 148 – 90 g/km.

[‡]Fuel consumption and CO₂ figures are obtained for comparative purposes in accordance with EC directives/regulations and may not be representative of real-life driving conditions. Factors such as driving style, weather and road conditions may also have a significant effect on fuel consumption.

[^]0% APR finance Hire Purchase available over a 2 year term with a minimum deposit of 45% on Alfa MiTo Models and over a 3 year term with a minimum deposit of 40% on Alfa Giulietta Models. Offer applies to models registered between 3rd January 2014 and 31st March 2014. Retail sales only. Terms and conditions apply. Offer correct at time of printing. Finance subject to status. Guarantees may be required. We work with a number of creditors including Alfa Romeo Financial Services, PO BOX 4465, Slough, SL1 0RW.

[†]On the road price includes 12 months road fund licence, vehicle first registration fee, delivery, number plates and VAT. Figures and prices are correct at time of publishing. Vehicles must be registered before 31st March 2014.

^{**}The 3 year warranty consists of 36 months' unlimited mileage warranty (incl. 24 months' Pan European warranty) which guarantees your vehicle against defective manufacturing faults for a period of 36 months from the date of first registration and without mileage limits. This excludes wear and tear items. Retail sales only. Terms and conditions apply and the warranty is subject to exclusions. See www.alfaromeo.co.uk for full details.

ALFA MITO SPORTIVA & GIULIETTA AT 0% APR REPRESENTATIVE[^] UNTIL THE END OF MARCH.

SAFETY

Both Alfa MiTo and Giulietta models have the 5 star Euro NCAP safety rating. Plus 3 years warranty**.

PRICE

The Alfa MiTo Sportiva range starts from £16,300[†] for the 875cc TB TwinAir 105 bhp Sportiva and the Alfa Giulietta range starts from £18,745[†] for the 1.4 TB 120 bhp Progression.

FUEL CONSUMPTION

With the Alfa MiTo range you can enjoy a combined fuel consumption of up to 80.7 mpg[‡] and with the Alfa Giulietta range up to 70.6 mpg[‡].

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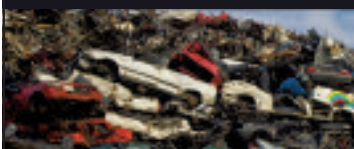
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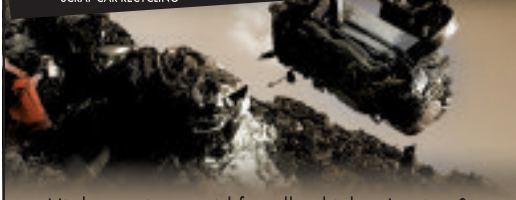
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Surbiton suffer double Bryant blow

If Surbiton Ladies are to reach the WHL Premier Division play-offs this term, they will have to do it without Amy and Vicky Bryant, *right*.

The pair, a key part of

head coach Brett Garrard's squad since their arrival at Sugden Road in 2010, quit the club this week, but are yet to sign elsewhere.

Surbiton – currently

third in the table – will also be without their GB internationals for Saturday's trip to struggling Olton and Sunday's crunch clash at second-placed Reading.



More sport: kingstonguardian.co.uk

Mead leads from front

Darcie Mead led Surbiton High School to a 23-medal haul at the British Schools Girls Alpine Skiing Championships in France last week, *writes Stuart Amos*.

The 17-year-old, who won slalom silver and giant slalom bronze at the Welsh national championships in Switzerland earlier this month, won the giant slalom as the school's A team – also featuring Bella Colley and Amelia Vegting – won the team giant slalom and dual slalom title.

Colley also claimed an U16 slalom, GS and combined bronze, while Vegting collected an U18 bronze in the



Leading the way:
Kingston's Darcie Mead

combined event.

The school's B team lifted the Eve Alcott Memorial Cup.

It completed a memorable sporting week for the Surbiton Crescent school after they celebrated U14 and U19 girls team gold medals at the London Regional Gymnastics Floor & Vault Championships at Lady Eleanor Holles School, Hampton, last weekend.

The two teams will now represent the school and the London region at the national finals in May.

The mixed U11s team, entered in the competition for the first time, made an encouraging competitive debut with a silver medal.



Taking a breather: Surbiton High School's U11 girls team member Theodora Morley takes a break



Rubbing it in: Ks keeper Rob Tolfrey, who celebrated his 250th appearance for the club on Saturday, could not stop Maidstone United from opening the scoring at the weekend. Midfielder Daniel Sweeney, left, found the going tough in the engine room as the visitors ran away with the points in the second half

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No defence

by **STUART AMOS**

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Kingstonian boss Alan Dowson has warned his men they will not achieve anything this term unless they stop leaking goals.

Ks crashed 3-0 at home to new league leaders Maidstone United on Saturday in front of a bumper 687 crowd at Kingsmeadow.

Dowson's men have now conceded 18 goals in their past 10 Ryman Premier League and have dropped from the top of the table to fourth in that time.

"We could not defend for toffee on Saturday and our goalkeeper probably had his worst game of the season," he said.

"We will not get anywhere if we cannot defend.

"At the start of the season

we were keeping clean sheets, but now we look like we are going to concede every time we go out there.

"Our defending has gone massively backwards."

Ks, who travel to Leiston on Saturday, still have the second tightest defence in the league and Dowson has not given up on the title.

"We have got 18 games to go, so we have to believe we are still in it," he added.

"If we can keep things tight at the back, we have got the players who can score goals.

"We need someone to stand up and be counted and start playing well again."

Osborne: Representing Kingston remains a privilege

Pete Osborne remembers it was an honour to represent Kingston and that memory is behind the return of representative football to the borough.

Kingston's schools football team returned to action this season after a five-year absence thanks to the 26-year-old and Latchmere School teacher David Dowling.

Manager Dowling and his assistant re-established the team of year 6 footballers drawn from schools across the region and have led them to two wins from their five games thus far.

And Osborne, a teacher at St Andrew's & St Mark's Primary School, reckons the kudos of playing for the borough has helped the project go from strength to strength.

"When I was young it was always a privilege to play for your borough," he said.



New arrivals: Tiffin School old boy Pete Osborne, far left, and David Dowling, far right, pose for a photo with their Kingston borough football team and, right, Urmi Desai, who donated £500 to the team from the charity set up in her son's name



to play for us, because they get to play with the good players in the borough."

The team recently received a new kit bought with a donation from the Neil Desai Foundation.

"I was friends with Neil at school and still see his mum, he said.

"He was a very talented sportsman. It is fitting the charity set up in his memory has helped us out."

SPORTSbrief

WINTER OLYMPICS: Former Surbiton High School student Chemmy Alcott is playing down her chances of success at the Winter Olympics, which start in Russia this week. The 31-year-old downhill skier was a late inclusion in the Team GB squad for Sochi, having only just returned to action having suffered a broken leg last year. "Until I've done a training run I'm not going to put any numbers on it because I don't want to look like I'm underachieving or overachieving," she said.

ATHLETICS: Surrey U17 cross country champion Phoebe Law's fine winter form continued at the weekend as she claimed South East Schools Inter County Cross Country Championship U20 girls gold on Saturday. The 17-year-old Kingston AC & Polytechnic Harrier clocked 11 minutes 55 seconds to win in Southampton, a week after claiming U17s silver at the South of England Championships. Kingston's Mollie O'Sullivan, 13, clocked 10:22 to claim U15 girls silver.

CRICKET: Kingston borough's boys failed to reach the London Youth Games cricket finals at Lord's later this year as they won two and lost one of their three qualifying matches at Harrow Leisure Centre over the weekend. Kingston beat Westminster by 81 runs and Brent by two runs, but sandwiched between those was a two-run defeat to Redbridge, which ultimately cost Kingston.

FOOTBALL: Kingstonian have announced academy trials for next season. Trials are on February 18 and 20 from 12pm until 2pm at Wandgas Sports Club, Worcester Park. To book a place visit scl-online.co.uk or contact academy manager Mark Hams on 07771 766197.

HOCKEY: Surbiton warmed up for their return to MHL Premier Division action at Wimbledon this Sunday, with a 7-2 friendly win at Teddington at the weekend. Goals came from Chris Gassick (three), James Royce (two), Michael Watt and Nicholas Parkes.

